

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIANANMEN SQUARE MASSACRE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on June 4th we commemorated the tenth anniversary of the massacre of thousands of students and workers at Tiananmen Square. We also remember the thousands injured, as well as the tens of thousands arrested and sentenced to prison or labor camps on that fateful day. We honor their bravery and courage, and the ultimate sacrifice which they made in the name of democracy and human rights.

Ten years ago today, the forward march of reform in China came to a halt; crushed by the steel tread of tanks, trampled by the boots of soldiers. The human rights situation in China has continued to deteriorate during the past decade. As recently as last week, the Washington Post reported the arrest of Yang Tao, one of the student leaders of the 1989 demonstration. This was clearly an effort by the Chinese leadership to discourage further protest on the anniversary of the Tiananmen massacre. Beijing has also attempted to silence the internet, another medium through which the memory of that tragic day will certainly be refreshed.

These efforts to erase the events of 1989 from popular conscience, Mr. Speaker, also include a strategy of redirecting the rage of the Chinese people by distorting the truth about the accidental bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade.

Today we send a clear message, not only to Beijing, but to the people of China. The United States has not forgotten, and will never forget, the events that transpired ten years ago in Tiananmen Square. We support those who continue their valiant struggle for democracy.

H.R. 1882, THE SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ACT

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, as one of the original champions of the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act, otherwise known as SBREFA, I wish to express my strong support for H.R. 1882, the Small Business Review Panel Technical Amendments Act, of which I am an original co-sponsor. As the bill's name would suggest, it will make several needed technical changes to the original landmark law. But more significantly, H.R. 1882 will hold the Internal Revenue Service more accountable to small businesses. This important piece of legislation will require the IRS to convene Small Business Advocacy Review Panels when proposing new regulations that will have

a significant impact on small businesses. These review panels will involve actual small business owners and their comments will be used to help improve regulations prior to release. Since 1996, the panel process has been applied to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the results thus far have been extremely positive leading to much improved rulemaking.

I am extremely pleased the House is considering amending SBREFA to include the IRS. However, I am concerned the benefits of this legislation may go partially unrealized. A primary reason for the success of SBREFA has been the role the SBA Office of Advocacy plays in the review panel process. Economic research conducted by the Office of Advocacy has been instrumental in demonstrating errors in assumptions made by the EPA and OSHA. But the Office of Advocacy's economic research budget has been stretched to the limits, forcing the chief Counsel for Advocacy to limit the office's research activities. If we are to expand the Office of Advocacy's responsibilities under SBREFA, as this bill does, then I feel it is absolutely necessary to make sure that Advocacy's economic research budget equals these new responsibilities.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 1882 and applaud the efforts of Chairman JIM TALENT to bring this bill to the floor and his consistent work on behalf of small businesses throughout the country.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE SAFE DEPOSIT BOX ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reluctantly support H.R. 1259, the Social Security and Medicare Lock Box Act of 1999. Although this legislation does not improve Social Security or Medicare solvency, it serves as a sign of commitment to preserving Social Security and Medicare by taking them off budget.

H.R. 1259 offers largely symbolic protection of our Social Security surpluses by blocking the consideration of any Budget Resolution or legislation that dips into these funds. This legislation includes a loophole which would exempt from these points of order any legislation that contains a sentence designating the legislation as "Social Security reform" or "Medicare reform." Unfortunately, the bill provides no standards or definition of the word "reform."

Insuring the stability of the Social Security system for today's seniors and future generations of retirees is one of my top priorities. I do not believe that this measure will negatively impact that goal, and thus I will support it. However, to truly demonstrate our commitment to protecting the Social Security Trust Fund, we must require all surpluses—the So-

cial Security surplus and the Medicare surplus—to be reserved until solvency has been extended by 75 years for Social Security and by 30 years for Medicare. The legislation that would accomplish this is the Democratic alternative, which would close the current loopholes in H.R. 1259, and provide true meaningful protection for the Trust Fund.

In an era of unprecedented growth and prosperity, we have a responsibility to implement policy that ensures economic growth for all sectors of our society. This requires investing in the future—creating a better America for our children, a future in which working families can afford to send their children to college, and in which all Americans can count on the continued integrity of Social Security. While I support this bill as a first step towards protecting Social Security and Medicare, I truly hope that our actions today do not become an excuse for complacency in the future, but rather a catalyst for continued progress on the critical issues of Social Security and Medicare.

THE STUDENT WINNERS OF THE 1999 EXPLORAVISION AWARDS

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, for the recognition of their achievement, my colleague, Mrs. MORELLA, and I are inserting into the RECORD the names of the student winners of the 1999 ExploraVision Awards.

Irving B. Weber Elementary School, Iowa City, IA; Grades K–3; Project: Strep Throat Home Tester; Students: Derek Ibarra, Bentley Wingert, Spencer Nash, Nathan Davidson; Teacher Advisor: Tracy Elmer; Community Advisor: Hector Ibarra.

Leeds Elementary School, Arlington, WI; Grades 4–6; Project: AllerScan; Students: Kallie Harrier, Teague Harvey, Anna Hagen, Amanda Treinen; Teacher Advisor: Jennifer McGinley; Community Advisor: Roger Clausen.

Point Grey Mini School, Vancouver, BC; Grades 7–9; Project: Woven Engineered Bone System; Students: Patricia Lau, Olivia Maginley, Robyn Massel, Katie Mogan; Teacher Advisor: John O'Connor; Community Advisor: Lynne Massel.

South Salem High School, Salem OR; Grades 10–12; Defeating A.D.D. through Biosensing Technology; Students: Jonina Allan, Rebecca Kozitza, Chrystal Hohnstein, Sam Sparks; Teacher Advisor: Michael Lampert; Community Advisor: Teresa Campbell.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.